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GOVERNMENT OF GOA

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GOVERNMENT OF GOA

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Office of the District Magistrate,
North Goa, Magisterial Branch

Order

No. 8/8/2021-MAG/L&O/(Vol.II)/4084

U/S 144 of the Code of Criminal Procedure of 1973

Whereas, it has been brought to the notice of the undersigned by the Superintendent of Police, North Goa District, Porvorim-Goa, that Mrs. Joan Mascarenhas e D'Souza and Mr. Domnic D Souza both r/o H. No. 302/4, Tropawaddo, Sodiem, Siolim, Bardez-Goa, are carrying out religious activities in the premises under their control at institutional building in the property bearing Survey No. 221/8 A and H. No. 302/4, Tropawaddo, Sodiem, Siolim, Bardez-Goa, so also in other parts of Goa and they both are preaching the public gathering in the name of prayer, healing etc.

And whereas, the Superintendent of Police, North has further informed that the numerous offences are registered against Mrs. Joan Mascarenhas e D'Souza and Mr. Domnic D Souza and also there were incident of serious law and order issues in the village Sodiem, Siolim, Bardez-Goa, wherein local villages and some activists had agitated against Mrs. Joan Mascarenhas e D'Souza and Mr. Domnic D Souza, for carrying out religious activities at Five Pillar Church Premises.

And whereas, the Superintendent of Police, North has further informed that Mrs. Joan Mascarenhas e D'Souza and Mr. Domnic D Souza are having communal background and there were incidents of law and order in the locality of Tropawaddo, Sodiem, Siolim. They are carrying out religious activities within the premises which are under their control at Tropawaddo, Sodiem, Siolim, Bardez Goa, which raised communal tension in the village as sources and locals are alleging that Mrs. Joan Mascarenhas e D'Souza and Mr. Domnic D Souza are involved in religious conversions by means of allurements or fraud.

And whereas, the Superintendent of Police, North has further informed that Mrs. Joan Mascarenhas e D'Souza and Mr. Domnic D Souza are accused persons in the Criminal cases registered at Mapusa Police Station and the offences are communalism related which have created serious law and order issues in the Village Sodiem, Siolim, Bardez Goa in the past.

And whereas, the Superintendent of Police, North has further informed that recently Hon'ble Supreme Court of India made observation that religious conversions by means of force, allurements or fraud may ultimately affect the security of the Nation and freedom of religious and conscience of Citizens.

And whereas, it is absolutely necessary to take speedy measures to prevent law & order issues in the Village Sodiem, Siolim, Bardez Goa and for this purpose it is necessary for proceeding under Section 144 of the Criminal Procedure Code, 1973 to impose ban on the religious activities carried

out by Mrs. Joan Mascarenhas e D'Souza and Mr. Domnic D Souza.

Now, therefore, I Sanjeev C. G. Dessai, District Magistrate, North Goa District, Panaji-Goa, in exercise of the powers vested in me under Section 144 of the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1973, do hereby order to ban to carry out religious activities by Mrs. Joan Mascarenhas e D'Souza and Mr. Domnic D Souza in their institutional building situated in the property bearing Sy. No. 221/8A and H. No. 302/4, Tropawaddo, Sodiem, Siolim, Bardez Goa in order to curb the religious conversions by means of allurements or fraud which may ultimately affect the freedom of religious and conscience of Citizens.

Given the emergent nature of the situation, immediate prevention is desirable. Mrs. Joan Mascarenhas D'Souza & Mr. Domnic D Souza are directed to abstain from engaging in religious conversion.

The circumstances do not allow the serving of notice individually, except Mrs. Joan Mascarenhas e D'Souza and Mr. Domnic D Souza.

Given under my hand seal of this office on this 28th day of December, 2022.

Panaji.— The District Magistrate (North), *Sanjeev C. G. Dessai*.

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